

Holiday Edition **THE ECHO** TAYLOR UNIVERSITY STUDENT NEWS

THIS ISSUE

Pg. 2: War on terrorism wears on
Pg. 4: Campus on Christmas
Pg. 6: A word to bike thieves
Pg. 8: Silent Night history 101

Volume LXXXIX, No. 13

Friday, November 30, 2001

Upland, Indiana

Terrorism forces Lighthouse to change plans

BY NICOLE SAMPLEY
STAFF WRITER

Recent terrorist attacks changed the American way of spending, traveling, and now ministering. The Presidential Council rerouted two of the five Lighthouse trips to alternate destinations as a result of Sept. 11 events.

Taylor administrators felt that the safety of the teams would have been jeopardized in the original countries. Many parents expressed concern and asked the Presidential Council to reconsider sending Lighthouse teams.

Teams going to South Africa, the Czech Republic and Ireland will continue with the original plans. The India and Turkey teams will serve in Trinidad and Tobago and Russia respectively.

"I wasn't surprised, but I was disappointed," said Kate Neyland, a member of the Trinidad and Tobago team.

"We've had to reroute not only our travel plans, but our passion and excitement for India to Trinidad and Tobago," said Dee Kijanko, a co-leader for the team. "The transition has been easy because the students have been

willing to make adjustments."

Soon after the decision was made, Jenny Collins, the Lighthouse director, created alternate itineraries while dealing with disappointment both here and on the host end. Searching for new destinations was an added weight to her already full-time workload, but she eventually found ones that included both the academic and missions-minded component.

"The Lord provided two opportunities and hosts willing to work fast," she said.

Regardless of the destination, Collins hopes "to see God work in and through teams to see lives changed."

Jason Courter and Kim Weston, Lighthouse co-directors, organized a prayer meeting Wednesday night to inform those who are not going on the trips how to pray specifically.

"We really want to educate people and make them aware of what's going on with the teams," said Weston.

Representatives from each of the five teams shared specific prayer requests at the meeting



Photo by Mike Schueler

HOLDING HANDS IN UNITY, a group involved in Lighthouse ministries pray over the change in itineraries caused by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Due to concern about student safety, the India and Turkey teams had to change their mission fields to Trinidad and Tobago and Russia respectively.

and those present prayed in small groups. Among other requests, students asked for prayer to develop good relationships with host countries, preparation for

the trip, team unity, humility, flexibility, safety and a strong sense of purpose. Taylor students will be working with a wide range of people including

children, teens and adults.

Courter and Weston hope to organize prayer events with DCs while the teams are ministering during the month of January.

Dr. G's second annual Christmas Fandango

Cookies, gingerbread houses, live jazz and the 'Grinch' to entertain all ages

BY WESLEY ENGLISH
NEWS EDITOR

Anywhere else in the world, a "fandango" may mean a lively Spanish dance done in triple time to the sound of guitars and castanets, but not at Taylor.

The second annual Dr. G's Christmas Fandango features a night of Christmas fun for all: students, staff, faculty and even the family of staff and faculty. The event starts right after the Silent Night basketball game which will be held on Friday, Dec. 7.

One of ICC's main goals for putting together the Fandango is to celebrate Christmas like a kid.

"This is our time to celebrate Christmas ahead of the actual date," said Ashley Armbruster, senior ICC president. "We're trying to bring out the kid in everyone and just have a good time."

The Fandango offers several ways to bring out the inner child.

First everyone is encouraged to show up for the event in their pajamas. Once they arrive, parties will be met immediately with a candy cane slide down the DC stairs. After a quick trip down to the dining area, hungry snackers will be able to decorate their own sugar cookies or build their own gingerbread house. The gingerbread creations will be entered into a contest for prizes.

After a few cookies and donuts have been eaten and washed down by coco or coffee, people can get a picture of them-

selves sitting on the lap of Santa himself. Participants are encouraged to bring their own cameras so they can capture themselves on film and maybe on Santa's lap.

Throughout the night a live jazz band made up of staff and facul-

ties such as a reading of "It was the Night Before Finals" and the singing of Christmas carols.

A countdown will start off the evening. When the count reaches zero, the 14 foot Christmas tree will be lit. The tall pine comes straight from Student Body

President Andrew Fennig's farm.

The Fandango's namesake Dr. Gyertson will be the centerpiece of the night's program, but

-Ashley Armbruster

ty and headed up by Dr. Richard Allen Farmer will set the Christmas mood.

The exact program is still uncertain, but those returning to the party for a second year can expect the traditional features

what exactly he will do is left a surprise.

"We appreciate Dr. Gyertson's involvement in student activities so much and this is only his second year being the university president and he's taking time

out to spend an evening with us before Christmas," Armbruster said. "I think that says a lot about his desire to connect with students here."

After the closing Christmas carols are sung, the original animated "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" will be shown.

"The movie will take them back to their younger years," Armbruster said.

Armbruster sees the evening as a great opportunity for staff and faculty to interact with students.

"We really are pushing for faculty and student interaction this year. Faculty, staff and administration are always invited to our events," Armbruster said. "They can bring their children, see santa, hang out and have cookies and watch the Grinch afterwards. I think everyone will have a good time."

Taliban nearly defeated at cost of American life

By WESLEY ENGLISH
NEWS EDITOR

The onset of the holiday season has seen a number of developments on the war against terrorism on the Afghanistan front.

America suffered its first combat death when Taliban prisoners killed CIA agent Johnny Michael "Mike" Spann, 32, during a revolt.

His mission was to question the prisoners in a fortress compound in Mazar-e Sharif last Sunday when the fighting broke out.

The rebellion ended last Tuesday when Northern Alliance soldiers destroyed a building where the Taliban resided with repeated fire from

tanks. The building crumbled killing all inside. Spann, previously a Marine before joining the Agency, was reported to be exactly where he wanted to be working, on the front lines serving his country, according to CIA Director George Tenet.

Spann left behind a wife, two daughters and an infant son.

The Red Cross is currently cleaning the fortress of the 300 Taliban bodies that are buried in the building and scattered outside. A pocket in the rubble held a few remaining prisoners, presenting a threat to the Red Cross cleanup.

One hundred to 150 Northern Alliance soldiers were killed in the fight to silence the revolt.

Qaida forces from crossing into Pakistan. They also are searching out those forces in hiding. The Marines are set up in an isolated airfield outside Kandahar, the last Taliban stronghold. The Marines will strike the city in targeted missions.

Other U.S. military men, 20 to 25 Army soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division are in Northern Afghanistan outside of Mazar-e Sharif ready to react to any situations that may arise.

Already assuming the defeat of the Taliban, four rival groups of delegates from Afghanistan are meeting in Koenigswinter, Germany to discuss a post-Taliban interim

government. Despite arguments, the talks have an optimistic feeling to them and could end more than two decades of civil war.

The Northern Alliance interior foreign minister Yunis Qanooni, who had earlier rejected the idea, has agreed to a multinational peace keeping force inside Afghanistan. Qanooni said he

would rather have a Afghan force made up of all the ethnic groups, but will allow the force in light of developments.

Last Monday, in another movement in the war against terrorism, President Bush warned Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to allow U.N. arms inspectors into the country to determine whether Baghdad is building weapons of mass destruction.

He warned of consequences if the demands were not met.

With growing speculation that Iraq may be the next front for the war on terrorism, Bush said he was through with tolerating Baghdad's refusal to meet the terms of the accord that ended the Gulf War.

"My message is that if you harbor a terrorist, you're a terrorist," President Bush said. "If you feed a terrorist, you're a terrorist. If you develop weapons of mass destruction that you want to terrorize the world, you'll be held accountable."

My message is that if you harbor a terrorist, you're a terrorist. If you feed a terrorist, you're a terrorist. If you develop weapons of mass destruction that you want to terrorize the world, you'll be held accountable.

-President George Bush

Five U.S. service men were injured. The battle lasted three days.

In other measures involving the nearly defeated Taliban regime, more than a 1,000 Marines landed in Afghanistan as a collective of strike forces.

The Marines are setting up road blocks to prevent Taliban and al-

This is an age for spiritual heroes.



Now is the time for you to be heroic in faith and spiritual character. At Talbot, we understand that a seminary education doesn't come without its costs. To come to Talbot will take a financial and spiritual commitment. But there are few seminaries where you will find a team of professors who are as dedicated to training and mentoring authentic Christian leaders in mind and character. At Talbot, you will receive an education that effectively balances the development of the mind with intentional Christlike character formation. Check out Talbot and see for yourself.

(800) 652-4652
www.talbot.edu

TALBOT
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Biola University
13800 Biola Avenue
La Mirada, California 90639

Holiday Travel Tips

By plane

The terrorist attacks have changed airline travel. Be prepared for the new policies:

1. Only the ticket holder is allowed pas security to the gate
2. Wrapped presents may be unwrapped and inspected
3. Only one carry-on is now allowed
4. Everything is subject to be searched
5. All the added security takes time, show up at least two hours early





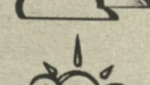
By car

1. Let someone know the route you're taking and when you expect to arrive at your destination.

2. Wear a seat belt
3. If feeling too tired, don't risk driving, pull over and rest
4. Check antifreeze, windshield fluid and oil before beginning

GRIFFIN'S FIVE-DAY FORECAST



| | | | |
|-----------|-------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Friday: | 48/34 |  | Morning rain becoming mostly cloudy |
| Saturday: | 44/33 |  | Mostly cloudy 30% chance of rain |
| Sunday: | 39/28 |  | Mostly Cloudy |
| Monday: | 46/27 |  | Partly Cloudy |
| Tuesday: | 44/31 |  | Mostly Cloudy |

The major rainmaking system that has been over us for the past few days will quickly move to the northeast today. As the Low moves through, it will bring warmer temperatures for the day. The passage of the system will bring average temperatures and precipitation over the forecast period.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6

Merry Christmas from The Echo

Features

"O Father may that Holy Star grow every year more bright, and send its glorious beams afar to fill the world with light."

-William Cullen Bryant

A peek into the life of Christmas traditions

By **ELLIE HALGREN**
FEATURES EDITOR

Traditions anchor us, inspire us, and make us laugh year after year. The origin of family traditions is often unknown, but the meaning behind them resounds clearly as they bring families together during the fast paced holiday season. Traditions are often passed down with great care, providing information about past generations. Whether they are big or small, elaborate or simple, traditions communicate belonging and a sense of family uniqueness.

Many families have Christmas traditions that involve either food, or activities or some combination of the two. Here's how some Taylor students celebrate Christmas with their families.

Dec. 24th and 25th would not be the same for the following students who appreciate specific foods as part of their Christmas tradition. For freshmen Joy Bellito and her family it's Christmas with a surprise as every year her Grandmother makes Swedish pudding and hides a nut in it. This dish is served as the Christmas day desert and the lucky recipient of the nut gets a prize.

Taking a different twist on Christmas, senior Jeremy Schea and his family bake a birthday cake for Jesus on Christmas day, and as his younger brothers decorate the cake, his mom explains that Christmas is Jesus' birthday, but that he lets us get his presents.

There are several special meals

served in senior Lindsay Thomas's family on Christmas day. In the morning they eat scrapple, which is a southern dish consisting of a kind of mush that is then fried. In the evening they make meat and cheese fondue.

For some Taylor students it's not just who you're with but what you do that makes Christmas special as they celebrate with certain activities. According to

Christmas and then she plays the 12 days of Christmas on the piano while each family member takes a part to sing.

In sophomore Kate Neyland's family they decorate the tree while listening to Amy Grant Christmas. Each ornament is taken out individually and they talk about the meaning behind them and who gave them to the family.

Freshmen Matt Jesser receives

wise men far away from the manger. As Christmas approaches the wise men move closer and closer to Jesus every day. Then on Christmas day Courtney's mom hides the baby Jesus figurine for Courtney to find. This tradition symbolizes how Jesus was born on Christmas morning.

The festivities start for sophomore Katie Adams' family on December 2nd, Katie's birthday, by decorating their tree. They also have an advent calendar from which they read the daily scriptures at dinner, and an advent wreath with candles that are lit as a symbol of the approaching weeks of Christmas.

When Katie's family receives Christmas cards they read them out loud at dinner and then pray for the families of those who sent them. Then they hang the cards in the arch way of their door as a reminder. On Christmas day Katie and her family wait to start opening presents while their Grandfather from her mom's side shaves and then when he joins them he starts out the holiday by saying, "well, should we eat breakfast first?" to which they all reply "no, no." Then they open their stocking in which they always receive an orange. After this it's off to their Dad's parents for Christmas bingo for weird and creative prizes.

As Taylor students come from all over the world, they bring special traditions with them. It is these traditions that represent different regions and ethnic backgrounds - teaching us to appreciate the differences in us.

...when the clock strikes twelve noon the family competes to receive a gift that night. The goal is to be the first person to say the phrase "Christmas Eve gift" to all other members of the family.

Swedish tradition, junior Ginny Clough and her family open all their presents on Christmas Eve and then their stockings on Christmas day.

In senior Cheryl Olson's family St. Nick comes on the evening of Dec. 6th and fills their stockings, which are enjoyed on the 7th and then left up as a decoration until Christmas.

On Christmas day, junior Annie Larson and her extended family have a talent show in which her siblings and cousins sing, play an instrument, perform a drama or read a monologue. They also enjoy Swedish foods including potato bologna and lefse bread.

Freshmen Donny Toney and his family celebrate Christmas at his aunt and uncle's house. Every year his aunt reads the biblical account of the night before

three special gifts, in addition to other presents, from his parents that represent the gifts given to baby Jesus. One gift is for spiritual growth, the second gift is an article of clothing, and the third gift is just for fun.

Some traditions depend on a certain time frame like in junior Carson Newmen's family. On Christmas Eve when the clock strikes twelve noon the family competes to receive a gift that night. The goal is to be the first person to say the phrase "Christmas Eve gift" to all other members of the family. Those that say it first get a gift from the loser.

Another family whose tradition depends on time is sophomore Courtney Curtis's. As the holiday season starts the family sets up their nativity scene with the three

THE ECHO

Karen Penner
Editor-in-chief

Heather Barnes
Managing Editor

Wesley English
News Editor

Ellie Halgren
Features Editor

Julie Cooper
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Justin McLaughlin
Opinion Editor

Tab Bamford
Sports Editor

Jeremy Jones
Advertising Manager

Mike Schueler
Photographer
Distribution Manager

Bryan Smith
Photographer

Sarah Boycan
Copy Editor

Donna Downs
Faculty Adviser

The mission of the Echo is to fairly and without bias represent the views of diverse voices on Taylor University's campus and to be a vehicle of accurate and pertinent information to the student body, faculty and staff. The Echo also aims to be a forum that fosters healthy discussion about relevant issues, acting as a catalyst for change on our campus.

The Echo has been published weekly since 1915, except for January term, exam week and school holidays, and is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Indiana Collegiate Press Association.

The Echo is printed by the Fairmount News-Sun in Fairmount, Ind. Offices are located in the Rupp Communication Arts Building.

All letters, questions or comments may be addressed to:

The Echo, Taylor University,
236 W. Reade Ave.
Upland, IN 46989-1001
(765) 998-5359
E-mail: echo@tayloru.edu

Fraternities - Sororities - Clubs - Student Groups

Earn \$1,000-\$2000 this semester with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three hour fundraising event. Does not involve credit card applications. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888)923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com.

ONE & TWO BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Range,
Refrigerator
and Water furnished

Available for the fall semester

Located at Second Street
and Joyce Avenue
Call Nancy Holmes
@ 664 - 4735

Want to place an advertisement?

Call 765-998-5359 and talk to Jeremy Jones, The Echo ad manager.

Catch the eye of college students, faculty and parents!

Do you know what's happenin'?

Do you keep up with the times?

Do you know anything about A & E?

Wanna be a section editor?

contact THE ECHO echo@tayloru.edu

BEST ONE
TIRE & SERVICE

Better Brands
Better Prices

The buying power
of over 170
locations!

Best One dealers feature an
excellent selection of major
brand tires, including:

Mastercraft

UPLAND TIRE inc.

148 South Main Street
Upland, IN 46989

Michael Pearson
(765) 998-0871

Mon - Fri: 7:30 to 5:30 pm Sat: 7:30 to Noon

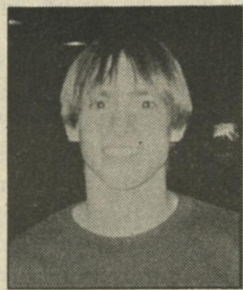
Firestone Goodyear

A few of our favorite Christmas things...



"Family"

PAULA MILLER
Queen of the DC



"My favorite
Christmas carol is
*O Come All Ye
Faithful*"

JEFF MILLS
Junior



"Family friends
and fellowship-
ping"

SHERIAN NOWLES
Junior



"The break from
school"

KEVIN WELTY
Sophomore



"The Christmas
tree"

DORY SCHMIDT
junior



"The atmosphere"

KEVIN BHALLA
FRESHMAN



"I get to go home
after not seeing
my parents for 6
months"

JOHN PEEBLES
Junior



"Giving somebody
something they
wanted & seeing
their face light up"

LEANDRO MONTOYA
Sophomore



"Elves with little
pointy shoes"

SARAH ERICKSON
Senior

Photos by Mike Schueler

Ebenezer Scrooge no more, fill your pockets with wealth galore

By JULIE COOPER

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Looking for a way to make some extra money before Christmas break?

Search no more because the Echo has some ideas for you.

There are not many ways to make money while in college, besides the traditional work-study jobs or part-time jobs. Here are a few ways to earn some extra cash before the holidays.

1. Give plasma.

Giving plasma pays between \$15 and \$25 each time a donation is made.

In order to donate plasma, one must be at least 18 years old and weigh a minimum of 110 pounds. Plasma is the yellow-colored liquid part of the blood. It carries almost all of the proteins in it. In order to make sure that the plasma is safe for others, each donor

is required to take a physical exam, have an extensive medical history check done, and the blood will also be checked for hepatitis and HIV. The International Association for the Source Plasma Collection Industry's web site said, "In the United States, a person may donate two times in every seven days, but not more than once in a 48-hour period, according to FDA regulations." Each plasma donation takes between two and three hours.

Plasma is used to help hospital patients worldwide. The plasma donation center that is closest to Taylor is Sera-Tec Biologicals on South Madison Street in Muncie. *Please consult your doctor about side effects before donating.*

2. Become a bellringer for the Salvation Army.

Many people associate the holiday bellringers seen outside

many stores as the start of the Christmas season. The Salvation Army is looking to fill the 5-9 p.m. shift specifically, but there may be openings during other time periods. This job would run from now until December 24. More info on this job is available in Career Development.

The Salvation Army's motto is "to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in his name." The Salvation Army web site says, "Each year, The Salvation Army provides Christmas dinners, clothing, and toys to families in need. Financial assistance helps families with basic necessities and seasonal aid. Families of prisoners are often included in these acts of charities. Additionally, volunteers distribute gifts to shut-ins in hospitals and nursing homes during Christmas."

3. Sell your textbooks.

Now that people have registered for their j-term and spring classes, they might want to get a head start on purchasing their books. Anyone who has ever taken a class at Taylor University has a book that they are able to sell to other students who need them. This is a good way to make some money, but please be aware that some people are not ethical in dealing with others. Students have been known to sell a freshman the 5th edition of a book when they know that the teacher is currently using the 7th edition, so "let the buyer beware".

Another way to make money from textbooks is to sell them back to the Taylor University bookstore. Book buyback will be taking place at the bookstore on December 10th through December 13th from 9 a.m. to 4

p.m. Although students will only receive a fraction of what they paid for the book, it is a good way to get cash quickly. On a \$80 COS 104 book, only \$20 was received for it. This should give an idea of how much one will receive for his or her books.

4. Get creative.

Many people on campus might be willing to pay someone else to perform tasks they are not good at or that they detest. Some examples are: gift wrapping, hair-cutting, changing the oil on someone's car, running errands for them or performing household chores such as ironing, washing dishes and vacuuming. Other services that might be worth a few dollars are snow shoveling and baby-sitting for a family so that the parents can go out for a little last minute Christmas shopping.

Opinion

"I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year ... The child who was born in Bethlehem will rule in my heart ... !"
-Ebenezer Scrooge, A Christmas Carol

Television won't fade to black

By JUSTIN MCLAUGHLIN
OPINION EDITOR



A recent article at CNSNews reported that "The only real way of cleaning up television is for viewers to stop watching this perverse programming, which will cause companies to pull their advertising dollars from such shows." Well, unless you've got a Nielsen rating box sitting on top of your TV, no one's going to care what you're watching. The church has a higher responsibility when it comes to the mass media; there are better ways of opposing what some call the "downward spiral" of our society.

Bob Briner writes in his book, *Roaring Lambs*, "It is my contention that the church is almost a nonentity when it comes to shaping culture. In the arts, entertainment, media, education, and other culture-shaping venues of our country, the church has abdicated its role as salt and light." When it comes to mass media, we as Christians have

tucked in our tails safely behind us - we've run scared. We're, in part, responsible for this "downward spiral."

We've created a "phenomenal subculture," says Briner. We have our own Christian books, music, TV and even movies. Those things are necessary for the body and glorifying to God, but they're preaching to the choir. God commanded us to "go into ALL the world" (emphasis mine). Not just part of it. All of it. Everywhere. So why do we ignore parts of our "world" that are more foreign to the Gospel "in many ways than China, India, or Africa?" asks Briner.

Many feel that boycotting advertisers and TV programs wins a great battle. However, the problem with boycotting perverse programming is that it doesn't work. When, as Christians, we stand up, yell and complain, but offer no alternatives - our culture, along with the television industry, laughs. We're not taken seriously. Is it believable that our country will allow our TV sets to "fade to black," as Briner says?

"If the resources used to survey all those hours of television,

report those results, and then organize a boycott had been used to produce and distribute even one quality national program that pointed viewers to the more excellent way, that would be of more value than all the score-keeping," Briner says.

So, should you watch trashy, perverse TV programs? Of course not. Should you run to film school and become a TV producer or a filmmaker in order bring light to the darkness of Hollywood? Unless God has called you to that, then no. What you should do is support those who have been called. Christian understanding and support of mass media is so skewed that it's scary. If you want to be a pastor or a missionary then the church has laid out pretty clear guidelines - if not, your path isn't always so defined.

A plan is needed, a plan to change mass media from within. No longer can we boycott our own popular culture and think we've fulfilled our responsibility. Christ's command to be salt and light in the world makes that clear. Isn't it better "to light one candle than it is to curse the darkness?" asks Briner.

Letter to the Editor

We are writing in response to concerns raised by last week's editorial regarding students attending the School of the Americas's protest in Georgia.

Firstly, the editorial written assumed the students who attended the SOA protest were breaking the law, and consequently, the LTC. This is simply misinformed. "School of the Americas Watch", the organization who organized the Nov. 16-17 protests, obtained valid permits from the city of Columbus to protest in all the places where they gathered. And, of course the protests were protected by the constitutional freedom of speech and to assemble. There was no "defiance of police" or illegal activity that Taylor students participated in whatsoever. Unfortunately, had the concerned students spoken with the group traveling to Georgia beforehand, they would have understood this.

Secondly, the writers of the previous article propose that "looking back through history, these types of protests have been largely ineffective in changing policy." We beg to differ. Two striking examples include the entire Civil Rights movement and Ghandi's nonviolent revolution in India. These historically successful protests are of exactly the same tone as the School of the Americas protest held annually in Georgia - which in November 2000 drew over 10,000 people. And, incidentally, the annual SOA protest has caused some legislative action in Congress, like current House Bill HR 1810.

Thirdly, we would like to shortly explain the motivation behind the protests. The Latin American soldiers accused of

murder, torture, and other human rights violations who were trained by the US Army at the SOA may number in the hundreds, but the civilians whose lives they have impacted number in the millions. The SOA represents a broader US foreign policy -- we train the soldiers of brutal dictators who we keep (or put) in power simply because they will comply with the wishes of the US government. For example, graduates of the SOA were at the heart of Pinochet's coup in Chile almost 30 years ago setting up a regime that terrorized millions of Chilean civilians in the years to come. [For more examples from Latin American history, try www.soaw.org]

So the soldiers trained at the SOA are not comparable to our own armed forces. Latin American graduates are often not so much protecting their civilian populations as controlling them. Our soldiers are responsible to the people they are protecting. For example, when ex-American soldier Timothy McVeigh takes lives in Oklahoma City, he is swiftly brought to justice by the American people. When SOA trained soldiers kill over 900 civilians in El Salvador at the El Mozote massacre (more than 4x the death toll in Oklahoma City) and assassinate a Salvadorian archbishop in 1998 - who is held accountable?

While we respect that others may hold dissenting opinions, we believe that by concerning ourselves with issues of injustice such as this we actually strengthen our Christian witness rather than compromise it.

-Ashley Burge, Peter Barrett,
Dave Coons, Emily Toher,
Ethan Van Drunen, students

Wait for Christmas morning

By CHERYL TJEKES
GUEST COLUMNIST



One of the greatest debates of the Christmas season, on an admittedly shallow level, is whether or not gifts should be opened Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Now obviously we all know the real importance of Christmas; "Jesus is the Reason for the Season," right? But I'm also pretty sure none of us mind the gift-giving part of Christmas either, which is why this is a debatable issue.

I am a firm believer that gifts are meant to be opened on Christmas morning. Some of my best memories of Christmas as a kid are of waking up early and jumping on the beds of my family members to wake them up so we could open presents.

Those on the other side of the debate think gifts should be opened on Christmas Eve. What's the fun of that? The excitement is over before you even get to the actual day! Then what are you supposed to do on Christmas Day?

I will admit that opening gifts at night with all the Christmas lights on, with your family all around, possibly playing Christmas music in the background, and maybe drinking some apple cider in thick mugs does sound appealing, but really, it's like instant gratification—getting what you want now, instead of waiting for the "right" time.

I am willing to compromise, however. It is allowable that gifts from extended family members could be opened on Christmas Eve, saving all gifts from immediate family to be opened Christmas morning.

It's also a fairly viable option to open one gift from your immediate family the night before, and

then opening the rest on Christmas morning. Either of these options would still preserve the childish joy that some of our most traditional Christmas carols are based on.

I'd also like to introduce another angle to the discussion. Once in a great while I hear the rare idea of opening gifts on Christmas night. I'm sure the atmosphere is wonderful, but it doesn't instill a lot of excitement in me to think of waiting the entire Christmas Day! Aside from that, I'm sure anyone with smaller kids in their family wouldn't desire the restlessness and whining resulting from the prolonged wait.

In my mind the issue is settled and opening gifts on Christmas morning really is the most desirable option, but for any of you in doubt, I'll point out one more fact that may have been forgotten. Santa doesn't come until Christmas Eve, therefore opening gifts on Christmas morning really is the only option!

Frame Yourself.

The Echo is now selling copies of published pictures

Pictures \$5, Interested? E-mail the Echo at echo@tayloru.edu

The November 16th *The Echo* improperly named Daniel Sorenson as the author of a letter regarding chapel speaker Jana Childers. The letter was written by Daniel Enerson.

Letters to the Editor

Since the October 24 Prayer of Jabez forum, students have asked me to place my assessment of Bruce Wilkinson's best-selling book in print. Given the considerable stir the book has caused among evangelicals, this request seems reasonable.

Several strengths of the book become immediately apparent to the reader. The author is to be commended for his strong desire to be used by God. Further, he unquestionably holds to a high view of Scripture. Finally, the author is passionate in his desire to experience divine favor. Each of these attitudes stamps itself on every page of the book - from cover to cover.

These virtues, however, are not enough to offset the book's flaws - flaws that are deep and require some comment.

My initial impression of PJ stemmed from how it is being marketed. One religious book distributor is selling PJ in packs of ten, which explains why it is selling like hotcakes. Evidently, the excitement generated by mass sales has created something of a "Jabez culture" among evan-

gelicals. Inside the back cover, for example, I'm told I can order The PJ Leather Edition, The PJ Journal, The PJ Devotional, The PJ Bible Study, The PJ for Teens, and The PJ Gift Edition. The latest catalog informs me I can now buy The PJ for Kids as well as The PJ for Little Ones. If that's not enough, another catalog tells me that the "extraordinary [Jabez] movement" has now been "captured on song" and is available on CD. (I personally await The PJ Canadian Version, for Parents of Children with RADs [Religious Attention Deficit Syndrome]).

Concerning actual content, several recurring themes of the book are troubling - in particular, the author's emphasis on the miraculous as normative and the book's very self-centered (rather than Christ-centered) focus on receiving personal blessing. (Both are reminiscent of the health-and-wealth heresy of the 1970's and 1980's.) The former gives an

unrealistic and unhealthy impression of normal Christian living while the latter reinforces psychotherapeutic tendencies of contemporary culture. Several questions scream at the reader. Is God not blessing when I must taste death or trauma? Can blessing be imparted via suffering? What about God's hiddenness or

As a teacher I am disappointed that the author did not contextualize Jabez in biblical history. There is no discussion in the book of the function of the Hebrew genealogy (in which Jabez appears). Nor is there any consideration that Jabez's prayer might be specific to his personal familial situation, and therefore,

... the book's strengths are trumped by one troubling tendency: it magnifies half-truths, which inevitably masquerade as 'the gospel truth.'

not a universal prescription. Correlatively, the author seems not to ponder why Jabez is not numbered

the latter category, PJ endorses a view of Christian living that one of my colleagues has tellingly called "Christian magic." Its author promises us: "Through a simple, believing prayer you can change your future. You can change what happens one minute from now."

Doubtless some in the Taylor community will charge that I am waxing too critical of PJ. After all, the author is sincere and seems to have been used by God in the past. Nevertheless, the book's strengths are trumped by one troubling tendency: it magnifies (and distorts) half-truths, which inevitably masquerade as "the gospel truth."

Ingesting PJ, in my view, is like a steady diet of MacDonald's hamburgers - they're convenient, they gratify instantly, they're sold by the millions, and they may be dangerous to one's health.

For now, at least, I won't be "praying Jabez." I'm just not sure I'm ready to have my territory enlarged.

-Daryl Charles, professor of religion and philosophy

I can't believe I forgot to lock my bike-my dream bike, a red Schwinn (I was born in the 50's, okay?). I had stayed after class to pray with a student. I had rushed back to my office, late for an appointment with another student. I had forgotten to lock my bike. Now I was late heading home for the evening and my bike was gone. I should know better, I thought to myself. I know about Taylor taxis but I always assumed that bikes were only "borrowed" by roommates from one another. Would a Taylor student "borrow" an expensive bike without knowing who owned it?

Eventually I found my bike sitting in plain view by the side door of the DC. The lock was gone. Perhaps the "borrower" took it, or maybe he simply let it fall off as he rode to supper. What goes through someone's mind that makes it acceptable to ride off with someone else's property? Was he thinking that he had no time to waste in getting to the DC? (Was he starving to death? If so, how did he summon the energy to ride the bike?) Was he resenting how far he had to walk in order to eat and how much work he had to do before he could sleep? Did he assume that I had less far to walk? (My house is four times further than

the DC). Did he think I would arrive home to a salad bar, a choice of entrees, and no work to do that evening? (None of that was true for me). Finally, did he assume because he left my bike in plain view in front of the DC that he was not committing an act of theft, was not in violation of the LTC, or of the eighth commandment and the words of Jesus (see Mark 10:19)?

So I'll buy a new bike lock and be more careful from now on, what's the big deal? You, the students, must continue to live with the problem since you can't keep everything locked up all the time. Some of you are freely helping yourselves to your neighbor's property; soon there will be locks on everything, and what sort of testimony is that? Obviously we are not a perfect community. My question is, are we in fact a Christian community? This should not be judged on the basis of thoughtless mistakes but rather on our willingness to make amends and to obey the words of Jesus, "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ... First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24).

-Robert Ley, professor of Christian Education

In the aftermath of World Opportunities Week, many of us in the student body now wonder what our role will be in world missions. Should I be a full-time missionary? Would it be good to take a Habitat for Humanity trip this spring break? Does God really want me to minister in the inner-city?

The answers to these questions obviously revolve around the direction of God's will in our lives, but for most of us, that does not help much. We have been encouraged by the events of last week to follow the will of God, but most of us have no idea what this mysterious term means. Prayers for guidance often go "unanswered," leaving a feeling of condemnation and spiritual failure among students, yet this need not be the case. The search for God's will, I feel, has been wrongly defined here at Taylor, so let me offer some comforting thoughts on this troublesome issue.

First we need to realize that the biblical writers never portray the finding of God's will as a difficult process. The struggle is always in following God's will, not finding it. The familiar image of a carrot taunting a donkey does not accurately portray the working of our God. He does not lead us blindly like a stupid beast.

Rather He has made his will clearly known to us through His Scripture.

Second, contrary to much teaching here at Taylor, the biblical definition of God's will is one of spiritual action, not of choosing a profession. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17 wonderfully evidences this truth by saying "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." The Scripture cannot be much plainer regarding God's desire for our lives. He does not care about the status of our profession as He does the nature of our spiritual lives.

It seems, therefore, that our primary concern should be focused at God's general will for our lives rather than on the specific. In fact, there are some like James MacDonald from Walk in the Word ministries that feel that God has no specific will for most of us! This seems opposite of cases like Jeremiah or Isaiah, who were called by God for a specific mission, yet we cannot generalize these cases for all Christians at all times. The Bible's general message does not teach to frantically seek after a mysterious call (which may not even exist), but to trust in the Lord leading, acknowledging

Him so our paths will be made straight. (Prov. 3:5-6) Our idealistic view that God has

So rather than creating unneeded worry about our future careers after Taylor, let us focus on following God's will in the present-for that is all we can do. As Whitford College professor Gerald L. Sittser once wrote, "The will of God, as it turns out, is not something we need to discover...Rather, it is something we need to do." ("God's Will: It's No Secret", Discipleship Journal, Jan/Feb 1998.)

-Joel Jupp, student

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the Editor must be received in our offices by 6 p.m. on Wednesday and be 450 words or less in order to be published. Letters should include a daytime telephone number and signature. Anonymous letters will be accepted on a limited basis, provided they have been given direct approval by the Editor.

You can write to us off-campus at: The Echo, Taylor University 236 W. Reade Ave., Upland, IN 46989-1001 Or on-campus at: The Echo, Rupp Communications Building Or via e-mail at echo@tayloru.edu

The opinions expressed in Letters to the Editor do not necessarily represent The Echo, or its staff or Taylor University.

"Photography is truth. And cinema is truth twenty-four times a second."
- Jean-Luc Godard

Stars shine bright on Film Fest night

BY JULIE COOPER
A & E EDITOR

Starting with a limo ride to the premiere and ending with Katie Taylor's award for Best Picture, Film Fest 2001 brought a little bit of Hollywood to Upland.

This was the third year for the Trojan Film Festival, the brain-child of Vinnie Manganello. This year, he relinquished his post to sophomore Kaiti Bierdeman, who took over this year as the host of the festivities.

"The purpose of the Trojan Film Festival is to open up students' minds and unleash them into a world full of ideas, creativity and dreams," said Bierdeman.

"This is an event unlike any other on Taylor's campus."

The film festival showcased 6 films made primarily by current Taylor students. These movies ranged from comedic to serious in their content. Subject matter included drug use, murder and sexual abuse.

An added treat to the festival was the documentary on how to pretend to steal a car. Although not eligible for judging, this film gleaned some of the biggest laughs of the evening.

Another highlight was the

"celebrity" presenters who gave out the awards at the end of the night. A few of the local celebrities who gave out awards were the Saturday Night Live cheerleaders from Nostalgia Night, the winners of the Cardboard Boat Regatta and the brother-sister duo of Phil and Liz Boltz.

The film, "Little Reminders," received three awards for Best Picture, Best Actress and Best Supporting Actress. This film was directed by senior Katie Taylor. After complementing the works of the other filmmakers during her acceptance speech, Taylor turned her attention to the serious intent of her film.

"Sometimes we need to wake up and look around and put our arms around each other...I can't thank you enough," said Taylor.

Other awards went to Dave Turner for Achievements in Cinematography for the film, "A Walk around the Loop." Turner said that he would "definitely" enter a film into Film Fest 2002. Although this year's film was a humorous look at rabies and dating, Turner said, "It'll probably be more serious next time."

Josh Vander Meer won Best Actor and shared Best Director



Photo by Michael Schueler

KATIE TAYLOR ACCEPTS HER AWARD for Best Picture.

Also pictured is Vinnie Manganello, creator of the Film Fest.

He thanked the three directors of the film for his award.

"I think they did a great job and a great movie and I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them," said Moriarty.

Other films included "Tangled" by Neville Kiser and "Things Change" also by Katie Taylor.

"I guess I was pretty believable as myself. I play that role a lot," said Vander Meer.

Brian Moriarty won Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of a man who helped to plan a sadistic technological murder in the film, "A Thoughtful Death."

He thanked the three directors of the film for his award.

"I think they did a great job and a great movie and I wouldn't be here if it wasn't for them," said Moriarty.

Other films included "Tangled" by Neville Kiser and "Things Change" also by Katie Taylor.

Taylor Musicians Make a Joyful Noise

BY JULIE COOPER
A & E EDITOR

The Music Department will start spreading holiday cheer with a plethora of upcoming student concert series.

Beginning and advanced students involved with the Center for Musical Development will have their piano recitals on Dec. 1 at 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., respectively.

On Dec. 2, the Taylor Ringers, University Chorus, and Flute Choir will present a concert at 7:00 p.m.

On Dec. 4, the Taylor University Jazz Combos will perform under the direction of Jeff Anderson. This concert will be held at 7:30 p.m.

Taking the stage at 7:30 p.m., the Gospel Choir will present their holiday concert on Dec. 8.

The annual Joys of Christmas Concert will be on Dec. 9, 2001. The music of the Taylor Ringers, Taylor Sounds, the Jazz Ensemble, the Symphonic Band, the Brass Quintet and the Chamber Orchestra will all greet the Rediger auditorium audience.

All other concerts will be held in the Recital Hall.

Senior Art Exhibitions



Photo by Bryan Smith

THIS PHOTOGRAPH BY KATHRYN PROTO is titled "Joie de Vivre." This picture of Salsbury Cathedral in England is just one of the pieces featured in Proto's senior art exhibit, "Oases". Other places pictured in the exhibit include: Acadia National Park in Maine, Wells Cathedral in England and Muncie, Indiana. Proto was the winner of the recent Parnassus art competition and one of her photos will appear in the 2002 edition.

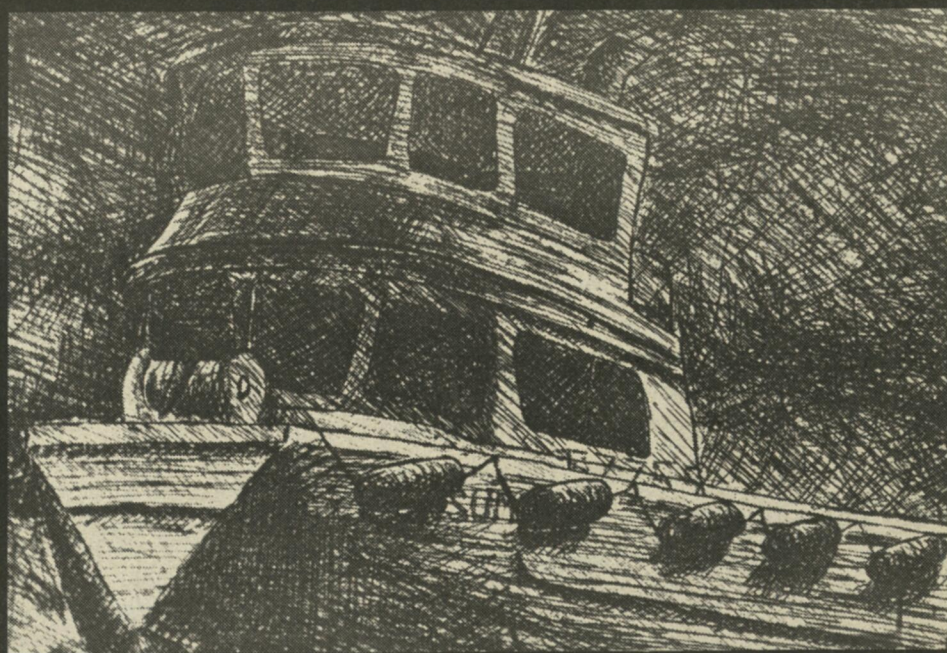


Photo by Bryan Smith

"SUMO" IS THE NAME of this etching from Aaron Mayes' exhibit. Called "Finners and Jumpers", this nautical-themed show grew out of his summer working in Alaska "as a deckhand on a commercial gill-netting boat fishing for salmon." "My skipper once told me, 'Most fishermen who fish for decades either become "religious" or go off the deep end," said Mayes. "This search for meaning and purpose is where I got the title."

Sports

Coach Patterson reaches another milestone

BY TAB BAMFORD
SPORTS EDITOR

In Upland the past 23 years a third item has been added to Ben Franklin's list of life's certainties. The list now reads death, taxes and Paul Patterson winning basketball games.

Since 1979 Patterson has served as the head men's basketball coach at Taylor, and has earned many distinct honors. On Nov. 24 the team defeated Nyack 83-50 to help their coach realize another milestone in his already-Hall of Fame career - win number 500 in the career of their coach.

"We really wanted to get it for him in front of a big crowd but we just didn't have enough opportunities [before Thanksgiving] to do it for him," said senior guard Alan Jones.

Patterson's resume is full of large numbers. Taylor has won 68 percent of its games in the past ten years. He has piloted two teams to the NAIA National Tournament's Elite Eight, with the 1990-91 team making it to the Final Four. That year he was the National Coach of the Year, which joins ten other yearly coaching honors on his "Been There, Done That" list.

However, Patterson's resume, though continuing to be filled with enviable statistics, stays put

in his drawer. The coach is in Upland to stay. With Patterson's litany of accomplishments and all of his records, he could pick any one of many numbers to be his favorite, but the one he has chosen is 502. Why?

"It's how many wins he'll have after our next win, so that's his favorite number," said Jones. "His favorite number is always how many wins we'll have next."

There are many things, such as his favorite number, that Patterson has made common language around his team. "Shoot well, defend well and the rest will take care of itself" has become a battle cry for the team, and a motivating tool used in practice.

"Our plan is to impose our will on the other team by playing strong defense so that, in the last ten minutes of the game, whomever we're playing is either frustrated or tired," said Holtman. "If we can do that, we've won the game."

As this year's team continues to win games (the team is 6-2 through Tuesday's 67-48 victory over Indiana University - South Bend), it moves both up the national rankings as well as closer to each other and Patterson.

"He is definitely our driving force," said Jones. "His attention

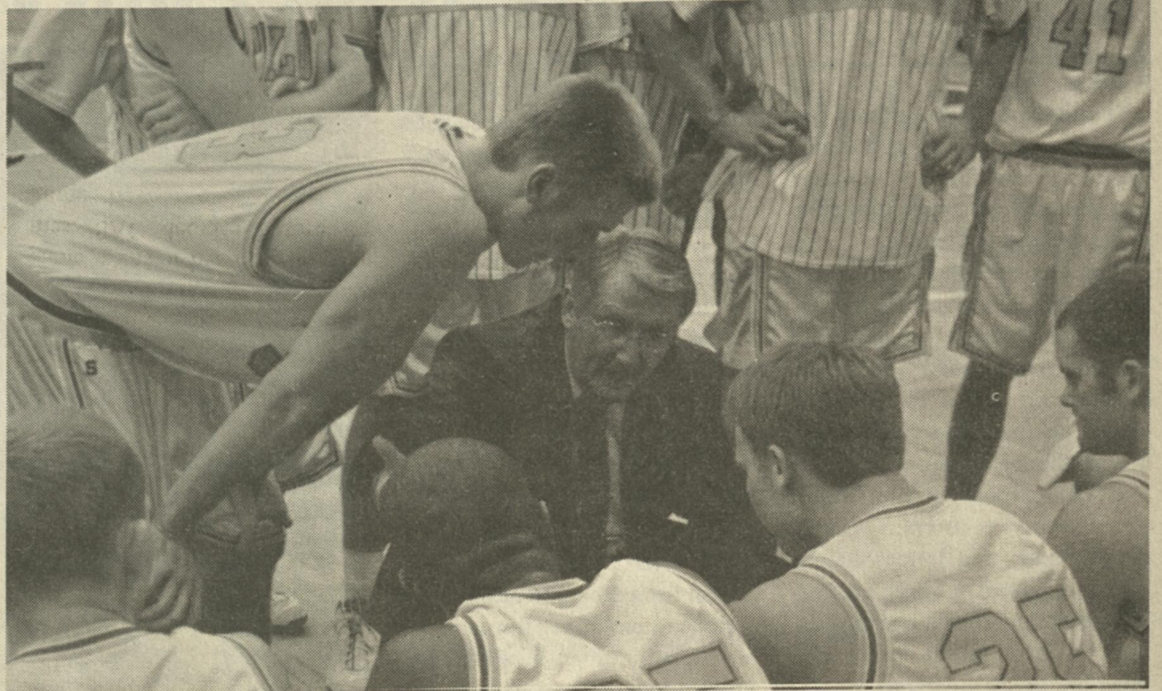


Photo by Bryan Smith

MEN'S HEAD BASKETBALL COACH PAUL PATTERSON instructs his troops during the team's 67-48 victory over IU-South Bend on Tuesday night.

to detail in practice and games makes all of us perfectionists."

The influence Patterson has on his players will last longer than just the four years the men are in college, and his influence runs beyond his reputation as a coach.

"[Patterson] is why I'm in coaching," said assistant coach Chris Holtman, who played for Patterson from 91-94. "He's been as big an influence on my life as anyone else."

Many former players echo these positive sentiments from Holtman. According to Holtman, Patterson invests in both the man and the athlete and this makes a difference in lives. In an e-mail to a regular newsletter put out by the coaching staff, 1982 Taylor graduate (now Dr.) Cam Gabrielsen, a surgeon in Indianapolis, shared these thoughts:

"He took an overachiever on

the court and an underachiever in the classroom and gave me the tools to live life in an excellent way," said Gabrielsen. "God is using him to mold Godly men. His medium is not clay, it is basketball."

As the Trojans try again to change their coach's favorite number, this time to 503, they will try to do so at the annual Silent Night game, part of the Ivanhoe Classic on Dec. 7.

The sound of silence rings true for basketball team

BY TAB BAMFORD
SPORTS EDITOR

The Trojans get a tough layup cutting through the lane. Absolute silence.

Taylor hits a three point shot at the end of the shot clock. Complete quiet.

A big Taylor dunk raises the

crowd to its feet for more serenity. But then a guard hits an easy little ten-foot jump shot, and . . .

Pandemonium erupts. Welcome to Silent Night.

For the past six years SAC has worked with the men's basketball team to put on an even truly unique to the sports world. Every

season, the first game in December has become what has come to be called the "Silent Night" game, coming directly before Christmas with Dr. Geyertson.

The plan is simple: every student on campus comes to the game in his or her favorite pajamas. SAC decides before the game how many points the Trojans must score before a single word it uttered in the stands and every student who enters the gym is notified as they enter the gym. Once the game starts, all students can do is bite their lip.

"It's really something amazing to be a part of," said senior guard Alan Jones. "The other team expects a loud crowd, and the silence kind of makes them crazy."

Complete silence fills air until Taylor hits the magic point number, and no matter the difficulty of the shot, the crowd erupts with its first cheer of the night. The

suppressed emotion of the big crowd usually carries over into making Silent Night the loudest night of Taylor's season.

"Any athlete will tell you that a crowd makes a difference in performance," said sophomore forward Matt Lettinga. "This game is a great example of that."

Lettinga saw the Trojans win last year's game, which has been the trend on Silent Night. The craziness has helped the team to a 6-0 record for the event.

This year's edition, against Trinity International University, should be no different in the outcome but a special pregame program will definitely offer a new twist on the game.

Athletic Director David Bireline has a plan put together to

make this already special night even more memorable. This year, before the sound is sucked out of the gym, Taylor will celebrate the contributions of the local area

The other team expects a loud crowd, and the silence kind of makes them crazy.

- Alan Jones

fire fighters, emergency medical personnel, and police officers in a pregame ceremony. According to Assistant Men's Basketball Coach Chris Holtman, between 60 and 70 of Grant County's finest will enter the gym and follow a few selected fall onto the floor behind the American flag. There will be a singing of "God Bless America" and then the National Anthem before the game's action begins.

Holtman also pointed out a "distinct possibility" of Taylor basketball shirts being given away at the game this year.

Congratulations to the volleyball team on an incredible season. The Lady Trojans travelled to West Palm Beach, Fl. for the national tournament. The ladies lost their first match to Dordt College but then defeated King College Wednesday. Thursday the team fell to National American. Their next game is today at 2:15 p.m. against St. Thomas

Scores:

Wed: vs Dordt - 30-24, 30-13, 30-26 loss
vs King - 30-22, 30-22, 27-30, 30-24 win
Thurs: vs. Nat'l American - 30-17, 30-19, 30-18 loss

Updated scores can be found through www.naia.org